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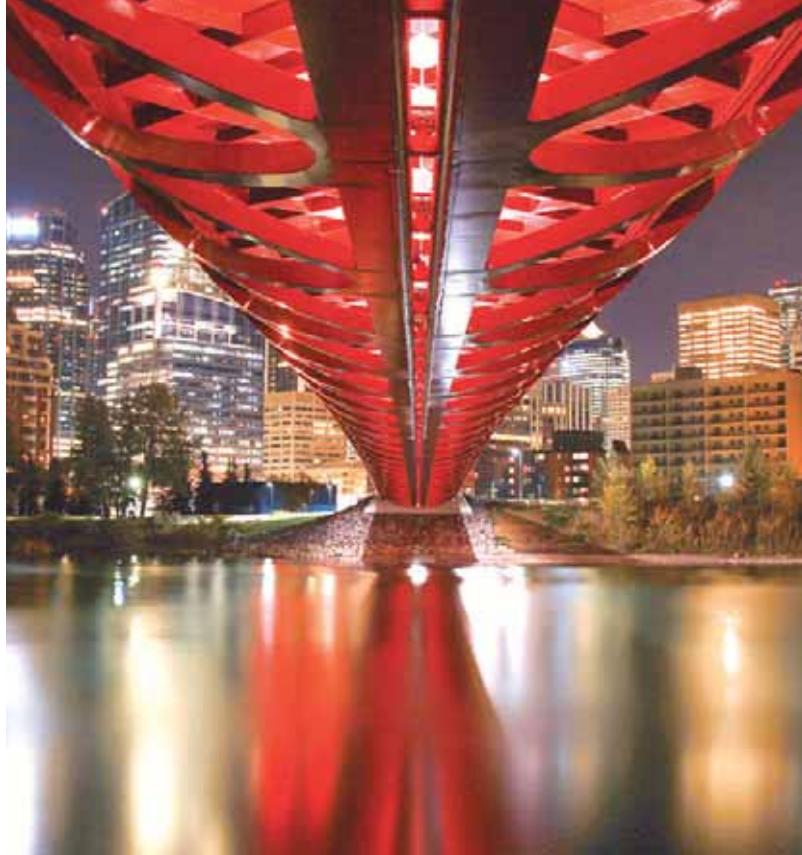
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## AMONG THE BEST

Calgary's controversial Peace Bridge is among the top 10 world public spaces for 2012, according to online architectural magazine, designboom.com. COURTESY OF NEIL ZELLER PHOTOGRAPHY

# No pit-bull ban in Calgary despite fatal dog encounter

**No restrictions.** City remains opposed to the type of breed-specific legislation adopted in other jurisdictions, bylaw official says

 ROBSON FLETCHER  
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Calgary has no plans to ban or otherwise restrict pit bulls after three of the dogs were involved in a fatal encounter in a city dog park.

"The City of Calgary does not promote breed bans," Animal and Bylaw Services operations co-ordinator Doug Anderson said Wed-

nnesday. "We find that they don't work."

A Pomeranian died in the encounter on Monday, while another dog, a Great Pyrenees, was seriously injured.

Anderson said both off-leash animals approached a man walking three "average-sized" pit bulls on leash, "on the borderline" of the boundaries of an off-leash area in Ogden.

The owner of one pit bull, Stephen Paquish, has been charged with having an animal causing death and having an unlicensed dog.

Anderson said the other two pit bulls belong to a person who lives outside of Calgary.

Bylaw officers seized the pit bulls, which are due to

undergo behaviour tests. Anderson said the outcome could be anything from returning the animals to their owners to the dogs being destroyed.

Charges are also being considered against the owner of the off-leash dogs, Anderson said.

The Calgary Humane Society is also opposed to breed-specific legislation, said head of animal behaviour, Barbara Walmer.

"It has not been proven to be effective," she said.

Despite frequent attention on pit bulls, Walmer said the city's own statistics reveal other breeds are more frequently involved in attacks.

Anderson said herding dogs were the "top-biting dogs" in Calgary last year.

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## Growing. Seeking 120 firefighters, city extends application deadline

Disappointed by the number of applications received so far, the city has extended its call for new firefighters by an extra month.

About 800 people applied between Nov. 30 and the initial deadline of Dec. 30, said Carol Henke, a public information officer with the fire department.

"We were actually hoping for more," Henke said.

As a result, the city has revised the application deadline to Jan. 31.

The city currently employs about 1,350 firefighters, Henke said, and hopes to add 120 more in 2013.

"It's not just to replace retiring firefighters; it's also to augment our numbers to staff new fire halls that are opening," she said.

Three new fire halls or "multi-services stations" are due to open this year, Henke said, all near the peripheries of the city.

The new halls include one in the southwest neighbourhood of Evergreen, another in the southeast community of Seton, and another in Symons Valley, at the north end of Calgary.

Henke said the deadline extension "gives anyone who has been at all thinking about applying to the fire department an opportunity to have the time to submit a proper application."

Firefighters' salaries start at around \$53,000 a year and grow to roughly \$81,500 after five years' service, according to the city.

More information and the online application forms can be found at [calgary.ca/firerecruitment](http://calgary.ca/firerecruitment).

ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO



Around 500 vehicles were mistakenly filled with diesel fuel at this Macleod Trail Co-op gas bar. KATIE TURNER/METRO

# Hundreds hit by diesel fuel mixup

**Costly mistake.** Gas station has offered to cover costs associated with diesel fuel pumped into around 500 vehicles



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Hundreds of Calgarians have been forced to park their vehicles following a mix-up between regular gas and diesel fuel at a south Calgary gas station — a mistake that will likely cost the company tens of thousands in repair bills.

Calgary Co-op spokesperson Karen Allan said that

on Dec. 26 at around 12:30 p.m., their fuel supplier mistakenly filled the regular-gas storage tank at the gas bar at 8818 Macleod Trail with diesel fuel.

It wasn't until 2:30 p.m. Dec. 27, after approximately 500 vehicles had been fuelled, that they were made aware of the problem.

"We were initially contacted by a member who had had some issues with their vehicle, and that caused us to go back and double-check, and that's when we discovered the error," said Allan. "That's when we began contacting all the members that had gassed up that day."

Utilizing Co-op membership numbers, Allan said they were able to contact around 476 members to noti-

fy them of the fuel foul-up, and they gave nearby dealerships the heads-up about the issue. They've also offered to cover the cost of rental vehicles, according to Allan.

"All the repairs, anything that happened as a direct result of having this fuel in their tank is being taken care of."

Christine Mork was one of the many who hit the pumps and fuelled up her Mitsubishi Outlander on the morning of Dec. 27 before making her way to the mall.

She said it wasn't until she received a phone message from Co-op on Dec. 29 that she realized anything was wrong.

"It will be covered, but it's still a bit of a hassle, definitely," she said.

### Repairs

- Calgary Honda assistant service manager Michael Hoang said they've had about six or seven vehicles come in for repairs after filling up at Co-op.
- While Co-op was unable to provide a cost estimate, Hoang said it will likely be several hundred dollars for each vehicle.
- "On an average repair for a diesel fill-up ... I would say it would be about \$1,000," he said. "It depends on what happens to the vehicle. It could range up from \$3,500 to \$4,000 if it needs everything."

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NEWS





High Performance Rodeo managing producer Erin O'Connor says this year's festival will be "epic." LISA WILTON/METRO

# Calgary's other rodeo set to heat up cold January nights

**High Performance Rodeo.** Festival welcomes music, dance, experimental theatre from around the world

LISA WILTON  
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January can be a cold, dark and depressing month.

But don't tell Erin O'Connor that.

The High Performance Rodeo managing producer says the annual experimental arts festival is custom-made to drive

away the January blues.

"It adds light and imagination to the darkest month of the year," she said. "It adds life to the city. It's a festival. Festivals are fun. It's an opportunity to mix and mingle with your friends and artists. And go to events and create conversation."

When O'Connor took the helm of the High Performance Rodeo five years ago, after running her own dance company, one of her first goals was to build a more sustainable business model, while keeping the artistic quality high.

She says the financial stability of the festival will allow her to book bigger, more interesting acts using a three-year planning cycle.

"It's a crazy business," she said. "There are a lot of moving pieces in a festival. You want some pieces that are grounded and pieces you know are going to do well, and acts you want in. You know they may not do as well as the others, but they need to be in the lineup."

"We really do try to veer from the mainstream a little bit and guarantee the best music, visual art."

Although the High Performance Rodeo is very much a "downtown" festival, O'Connor hopes people from across the city will visit the core to sample some of the most creative theatrical and music productions in the world.

"We're offering interesting opportunities for people to get

out and try something that's really outside the ordinary that makes people get off the couch and come downtown," she said.

Among the highlights of this year's High Performance Rodeo are an Icelandic program, which includes a cross-disciplinary performance by dancer Freya Bjorg Olafson, and the acclaimed stage adaptation of Franz Kafka's Metamorphosis, featuring the music of Australian singer and composer Nick Cave.

"Iceland is a hothouse of creative minds," O'Connor said. "The Icelandic heat wave is a unique opportunity for Calgarians to bask in the art, music, dance and theatre of some amazing end-of-the-rainbow Icelandic artists."

## More information

- When and where.** The 27th-annual High Performance Rodeo runs Jan. 3 through Feb. 3 at the Epcor Centre for the Performing Arts. For schedules and show information, go to [hprodeo.ca](http://hprodeo.ca).

- Get your tickets.** Single tickets and festival passes can be purchased online or in person at the One Yellow Rabbit box office on the mezzanine level of the Epcor Centre, or by calling 403-294-9494.

## Retrospective

A brief history of the High Performance Rodeo:

- 1987.** One Yellow Rabbit ensemble theatre company kicks off its inaugural Secret Elevator Experimental Performance Festival with five productions.
- 1988.** The Secret Elevator fest is renamed High Performance Rodeo and features 14 productions during two weeks at OYR's Big Secret Theatre.
- 1993.** Attendance hits 1,000 after the Rodeo expands into a second venue, Theatre Calgary's rehearsal hall.
- 1995.** The Rodeo finally settles on the month of January, becoming the city's biggest winter arts festival.
- 1997.** Calgary-raised Kids in the Hall star Bruce McCulloch headlines the Rodeo and box-office revenues triple.
- 2006.** The Rodeo celebrates its 20th anniversary, with more than 30 productions at seven venues, attracting 10,000 attendees.

- 2010.** More than 64,000 people take in the festival, which has expanded to 22 venues downtown. Some 5,000 people show up for the outdoor snowblower event, which featured sets by electronic music acts Pretty Lights, Beats Antique and Mr. Scruff.
- 2012.** The Rodeo lineup features the premiere of One Yellow Rabbit's show People You May Know, as well as the Calgary debut of Metamorphosis, an adaptation of the Franz Kafka story.

LISA WILTON/METRO

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# Search continues for missing Calgary woman

After searching in vain for nearly four days, police and the family of a missing Calgary woman continue to expand their efforts.

Sandra Mykytiuk-Evans, 56, was last seen at her Strathcona home on Saturday and was reported missing on Sunday.

Following an extensive search on Monday of Edworthy Park, where Mykytiuk-Evans liked to walk, police issued another plea on Wednesday for information from the public.

Police have received many "great tips" so far and hope to hear more, spokesman Kevin Brookwell, said.

Brookwell described the disappearance as "totally out of character" for Mykytiuk-Evans, who taught special-needs children. Police do not suspect foul play.

Dozens of friends, family members and even parents of her former students have joined in the search, said Mykytiuk-Evans' son-in-law, Rick Van Winkle.

"Thank God there's so many of us," he said. "It's been overwhelming."

Anyone with information is asked to call police or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO



Sandra Mykytiuk-Evans, 56, was last seen by her family on Saturday.

CONTRIBUTED



Despite costing tens of millions of dollars and being completed behind schedule, Calgary's Peace Bridge has earned a place in many people's hearts — though it still has plenty of critics. METRO FILE

# Peace Bridge ranked among world's top designs of 2012

**Grand designs.** Mag highlights projects that are 'accessible to everyone, often times the subject of criticism (and) impact the community as a whole'

 ROBSON FLETCHER  
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Calgary's Peace Bridge was ranked among the "top 10 public spaces" of 2012, as selected by an international architecture publication.

The often controversial structure was ranked No. 6 by designboom, an online magazine billed as the largest independent publication dedicated to architecture.

#### Music-program sponsors

#### Correction

In the Dec. 21 issue of Metro Calgary, the sponsors of a music program being run out of the Beltline Youth Centre were wrongfully identified. In the story we identified the supporting group as the Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Calgary.

The music program is in fact put on by the Boys and Girls Clubs of Calgary and continues actively to bring in young participants. Metro regrets the error.

#### Tribute on film

Local photographer Neil Zeller has made the Peace Bridge one of his most photographed objects and has created a calendar consisting of various images of the structure.

- For more information, go to neilzellerphotography.com.

and design, with 4.2 million monthly readers around the world.

That put the bridge just behind a floating cinema in Thailand and just ahead of the Superkilen Urban Park in Copenhagen.

Calgary photographer Neil Zeller, who specializes in images of the bridge, figured

it should have ranked even higher on the list.

"I find the design fantastic," he said. "It really changes as you look at it differently, from just about every angle you can find."

Gordon Stewart, Calgary's director of transportation infrastructure, said the bridge is fast becoming a symbol of the city.

"That was the intent at the beginning — to build something that would become an icon — and it seems to be working," he said.

But Derek Fildebrandt of the Canadian Taxpayers Federation has a different view of the \$24.5-million bridge, which he described as costly, ugly and unnecessary.

"This thing could have been free and I still think it would have been a bad idea," he said.

## 'Kiting' alleged. Calgary man charged with 16 fraud-related offences

A six-month investigation has led to the arrest of a Calgary man who is accused of multiple fraud-related offences over the course of a year, police say.

Investigators say between January 2010 and January 2011, a man created 12 aliases at 13 bank branches using false government IDs. He allegedly deposited hundreds of stolen and fabricated cheques and, using a process call "kit-

ing," withdrew the cash before the fraudulent cheques were detected by the bank.

Police say a total of \$250,000 was transferred using ATMs and Internet banking, and the loss to the bank is estimated at \$35,000.

Lamin Krubally, 32, was arrested on Dec. 17. He has been charged with 16 counts, including fraud over \$5,000 and uttering false documents.

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Chris Christie speaks at a news conference at New Jersey's State House on Wednesday in Trenton, N.J. Christie blasted fellow Republican John Boehner for the House Speaker's decision Tuesday to delay a vote on Superstorm Sandy relief, saying the inaction is "inexcusable." NEW JERSEY GOVERNOR'S OFFICE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Congress to vote Friday on Superstorm Sandy aid

## Rebuilding stage.

Money from House votes could result in a roughly \$60-billion relief package

The leader of the U.S. House agreed Wednesday to a vote this week on aid for Superstorm Sandy recovery, changing course after coming under intense pressure from angry fellow Republicans.

House Speaker John Boehner will schedule a vote Friday for \$9 billion for the national flood-insurance program and another on Jan. 15 for a remaining \$51 billion in the package,

Republican Rep. Peter King of New York said after emerging from a meeting with Boehner and Republican lawmakers from New York and New Jersey. The votes will be taken by the new Congress that will be sworn in Thursday.

Boehner's decision Tuesday night to cancel an expected vote on the storm aid before Congress ends its current session had provoked a firestorm of criticism from New York, New Jersey and adjacent states, including many lawmakers in his own party.

According to King, Boehner explained that after the contentious vote this week to avoid major tax increases and spending cuts called the "fiscal cliff," Boehner didn't think

it was the right time to schedule the vote before the current Congress went out of business.

King left the session with Boehner without the anger that led him to lash out at the speaker Tuesday night.

"What's done is done. The end result will be New York, New Jersey and Connecticut will receive the funding they deserve. We made our position clear last night. That's in the past," King said.

Sandy was blamed for at least 120 deaths and battered coastline areas from North Carolina to Maine in October. New York, New Jersey and Connecticut were the hardest-hit states and suffered high winds, flooding and storm surges.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Mishandling debt could be 'catastrophic': Obama



U.S. stocks surged as traders around the globe felt renewed confidence over global markets after Congress reached a deal to avert the fiscal cliff. SPENCER PLATT/GETTY IMAGES

A last-minute deal in Congress to avoid the economy-shaking "fiscal cliff" sent world stocks climbing Wednesday, but doesn't solve the problem of the massive U.S. deficit, meaning other battles on deep spending cuts and the federal debt limit loom in the coming weeks and months.

All the major U.S. stock indexes jumped by at least two per cent, and the Dow Jones industrial average saw its biggest surge in six months.

A smiling President Barack Obama said he would sign the law "that raises taxes on the wealthiest two per cent of

Americans while preventing tax hikes that could have sent the economy back into recession." Then he left for Hawaii to resume his holiday break.

Congress also will have to act as early as February on raising the \$16.4-trillion federal borrowing limit, which will allow the country to pay its bills.

## Northern perspective

**"Canada welcomes the agreement reached between the president and the Congress.... That said, there remain ... significant risks to the U.S. economic outlook."** Canadian Finance Minister Jim Flaherty

## On the table

The House Appropriations Committee has drafted a smaller, \$27-billion measure for immediate recovery needs and a second amendment for \$33 billion to meet longer-term needs.

- The \$9 billion in flood-insurance money to be voted on was originally in the \$27-billion measure.
- The votes on Jan. 15 will be for \$18 billion in immediate assistance and \$33 billion for longer-term projects, including protection against future storms.

# Court battle. Sperm donor could be on the hook for child-support payments

A sperm donor in the U.S. is fighting an effort to force him to pay child support for a child conceived through artificial insemination by a lesbian couple.

When 46-year-old William Marotta donated sperm to Angela Bauer and Jennifer Schreiner in 2009, Marotta relinquished all parental rights, including financial responsibility to the child. When Bauer and Schreiner filed for state assistance in Kansas this year, the state demanded the donor's name so it could collect child support for the now three-year-old girl.

The state contends the agreement between Marotta and the women is not valid because Kansas law requires a licensed physician to perform artificial insemination.

"If a sperm donor makes his contribution through a licensed physician and a child is conceived, the donor is held harmless under state statute. In cases where the parties do not go through a physician or a clinic, there remains the question of who actually is the father of a child or children," Angela de Rocha, a spokeswoman for the Kansas Department for



William Marotta is being asked to pay child support after providing sperm to a same-sex couple.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Children and Families, said in a statement.

Bauer and Schreiner have said they fully support Marotta's efforts to fight the state's request. When Bauer was diagnosed in March with what she calls "a significant illness" that prevents her from working, Schreiner sought health insurance for their daughter from the state. The DCF told Schreiner if she didn't provide the sperm donor's name, it would deny any health benefits because she was withholding information.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Movie-theatre shooting. Families of victims reject invitation to reopening

Relatives of the majority of people killed in a Colorado movie theatre rejected an invitation on Wednesday to attend its reopening this month, calling it a "disgusting offer" that came at a terrible time — right after the first Christmas without their loved ones.

The parents, grandparents, cousins and widow of nine of the 12 people killed said they were asked to attend an "evening of remembrance" followed by a movie when the Aurora theatre reopens on Jan.

17. They released a letter sent to the theatre's owner, CineMark, in which they criticized the Texas-based company for not previously reaching out to them to offer condolences and refusing to meet with them without lawyers.

"Our family members will never be on this earth with us again and a movie ticket and some token words from people who didn't care enough to reach out to us ... is appalling," the letter said.

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## Fatal crash

Paparazzo killed trying to snap Bieber photo

A paparazzo was struck and killed by a car while darting across a street after taking pictures of Justin Bieber's Ferrari when it was pulled over along a freeway in Los Angeles, police said Wednesday.

Bieber was not in the car at the time. The singer later said his prayers were with the family of the 29-year-old photographer.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## New Year's Day

3 teens dead after alleged plane joyride

Authorities believe that a trio of U.S. teenagers took a small airplane on a joyride without permission before it crashed, killing them all. The plane crashed Tuesday night in Alabama.

"I think they were just looking for a thrill, and they had their last one," Walker County sheriff's Chief Deputy James Painter said.

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# Newtown kids will return to class in new 'Sandy Hook'

## Shooting survivors.

School in neighbouring town has been renamed, renovated and garrisoned by a team of police officers

The children who escaped last month's shootings at a Connecticut elementary school will be returning to classes in a neighbouring town in a refurbished school now named after their old one, school officials said Wednesday.

Newtown Superintendent of Schools Janet Rob-

## On guard

**"I think right now it has to be the safest school in America."**

Monroe police Lt. Keith White on the level of security at the new school

inson announced that the students' new school, the former Chalk Hill Middle School in Monroe, has been renamed Sandy Hook Elementary School. She said the Sandy Hook staff made that decision.

"That's who they are. They're the Sandy Hook family," Robinson said after a news conference at a park in Monroe a few kilometres from the school, which will open for classes Thursday morning. An open house was held for parents and students on Wednesday.

Robinson added that renaming the Chalk Hill school will allow staff and students to keep "their identity and a comfort level."

The school where the shootings occurred remains closed and guarded by police. Newtown officials haven't decided yet on the building's future.

It's been nearly three weeks since the Dec. 14 massacre, when gunman Adam

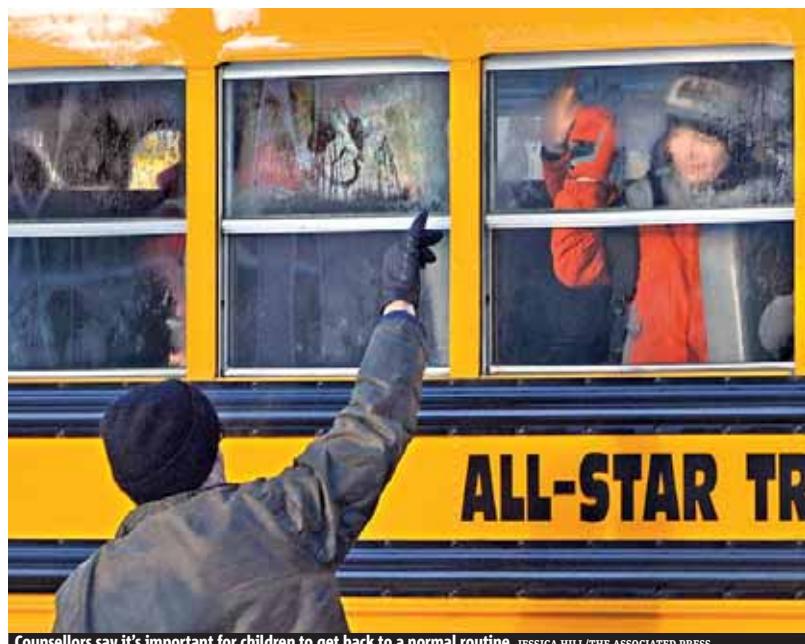
Lanza killed 20 students and six educators.

Numerous police officers on Wednesday guarded the outside of the Monroe school, which is about 11 kilometres from the old school.

Teams of workers, many of them volunteers, prepared the Chalk Hill school with fresh paint and new furniture and even raised bathroom floors so the smaller elementary school students can reach the toilets. The students' desks, backpacks and other belongings that were left behind following the shooting were taken to the new school to make them feel at home.

Several signs welcoming the Sandy Hook students to their new school were posted along the road leading to the school in a rural, mostly residential neighbourhood. One said, "Welcome Sandy Hook Elementary Kids," while a similar sign added, "You are in our prayers."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Counsellors say it's important for children to get back to a normal routine. JESSICA HILL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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# 'We have fiddled ... while Syria burns,' says UN official

## 21-month uprising.

Human-rights chief estimates death toll is 15,000 higher than previously thought

The United Nations estimated Wednesday that more than 60,000 people have been killed in Syria's 21-month-old uprising against authoritarian rule, a toll one-third higher than what anti-regime activists had counted. The UN human-rights chief called the toll "truly shocking."

Opposition activist groups had been estimating the death toll at more than 45,000 and this was the first time that the UN estimate was higher.

"Given there has been no let up in the conflict since the end of November, we can assume that more than 60,000 people have been killed by the beginning of 2013," UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay said in a statement.

"The number of casualties is much higher than we ex-



The scene on Dec. 17 after a mortar shell killed several in Aleppo, Syria. NARCISO CONTRERAS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

pected and is truly shocking," she added.

"The failure of the international community, in particular the Security Council, to take concrete actions to stop the blood-letting, shames us all," Pillay said. "Collectively, we have fiddled at the edges while Syria burns."

The real death toll is likely to be even greater because reports containing incomplete information were excluded and a significant number of

killings may not have been documented at all by the sources available.

"There are many names not on the list for people who were quietly shot in the woods," Pillay's spokesman Rupert Colville told The Associated Press.

The data, which didn't distinguish among soldiers, rebels and civilians, also shows that the killing in Syria has accelerated.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Deadly conflagration

A regime airstrike on a gas station in a Damascus suburb on Wednesday pushed the death toll even higher.

- Anti-government activists said dozens were killed when the strike ignited an inferno and left behind a gruesome trail of charred bodies.

## Lost. Woman missing for months allegedly killed in Pakistan over finances

A lawyer says a Canadian-Indian woman missing since August has been killed in eastern Pakistan.

The woman, Rajvinder Gill, went to Pakistan to try to settle a financial dispute but disappeared. Her father went to the police after she didn't contact her family for weeks.

The lawyer, Aftab Bajwa, who represents the woman's father, said the police chief of

the eastern city of Lahore told a court Wednesday that a suspect confessed to killing the woman.

A police officer said the suspect confessed to working with a German of Pakistani origin who was involved in the dispute, and together they killed the woman. The suspect said the second man has fled the country. Police have not yet managed to locate the woman.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Banned firearms

### Canada allows sale of assault weapons to Colombia

Just one day before last month's school massacre in Newtown, Conn., Canada offered its gun merchants "new market opportunities" to export banned assault weapons to Colombia, one of the world's most violent countries.

Canada quietly eased its ban on the export of assault-style weapons to Colombia after Foreign Affairs Minister

John Baird recommended an order amending the Automatic Firearms Country Control List. Now, Colombia has been added to a list that includes Canada's 27 NATO allies, along with Australia, Finland, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Sweden and Botswana, where prohibited firearms manufactured in this country may be sold.

Despite its impressive economic growth, Colombia is host to serious human rights violations, a 50-year guerrilla insurgency and world-leading cocaine production.

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# Owner of lost lobsters and gifts tracked down

Stacey Nash's Christmas vacation involved missing lobsters, the police and one thoughtful bus driver.

"This will be a story we'll never forget," Nash said.

On Wednesday morning, Halifax Regional Police issued a release asking for the public's help in finding the owner of a suitcase filled with frozen lobsters and Christmas gifts.

A Metro Transit driver

## Quoted

**"The airport people had a good laugh: They hadn't heard that one before."**

Stacey Nash on checking into her flight one piece of luggage lighter

had turned it into police before noon after spotting it on Monday.

"Given the nature of the

items, whoever owned it was not local," police spokesman Const. Pierre Bourdages said. "It paid off to alert the public."

Thanks to a tip from someone who read the release and saw a Kijiji ad by Nash's sister-in-law about the missing suitcase, police called her in Toronto less than an hour later.

Nash said she was "just so happy" everything was safe.

"I never eat seafood here in Toronto," said Nash, who is originally from Shelburne, N.S. "It's just not the same."

The suitcase was lost at about 6 a.m. on Monday when Nash's brother drove her to the airport to catch a flight back to Ontario, after her first holiday visit to Halifax in 20 years.

"He said, 'Stacey, you're going to have to do without your lobster,'" Nash said when he saw the back of the truck was open.

When she realized the luggage was gone — along with a Wii, clothing and Christmas gifts besides the three large lobsters — Nash said she was upset but had to board the plane.

Stacey's sister-in-law, Krista Nash, picked up the suitcase on Wednesday afternoon from police and is making plans with Nash on how to ship the luggage to Toronto. **HALEY RYAN/METRO IN HALIFAX**



Krista Nash holds a suitcase and a bag full of frozen seafood after retrieving her sister-in-law Stacey's lost luggage from the Halifax Regional Police station on Wednesday afternoon. **DEVAAN INGRAHAM/FOR METRO IN HALIFAX**

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## New Year's Eve babies

### Twins give birth to sons 2 hours apart

Aiden Lee Alan Dilts and Donavyn Scott Bratten didn't wait until New Year's Day to come screaming into the world, but the circumstances of their births are still pretty special: The babies were born about two hours apart to Ohio mothers who are identical twins.

The Akron Beacon Journal reports that 19-year-old mothers Aimee and Ashlee Nelson both gave birth on Monday even though their due dates were about a week apart. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



A flag-carrying Idle No More protester watches as police divert traffic around a blockade set up in Winnipeg on Wednesday. The demonstration lasted three hours and forced traffic on the Trans-Canada Highway to be rerouted around the Perimeter Highway. **SHANE GIBSON/METRO IN WINNIPEG**

# What is the point of Idle No More?

## Meaningful dialogue.

Organizers say national movement is about protecting all Canadians, not just First Nations



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## What they want

The organizers of Idle No More mostly want meaningful dialogue between politicians and First Nations.

- They say issues like the Conservatives removing key environmental protection of the vast majority of waterways in Canada is

a violation of their treaty rights, and want them reversed.

- Organizers also hope the Idle No More protests will spur Canadians to become more educated about treaty rights and inspire youth of all races to action.

concern that the Canadian government, led by Prime Minister Stephen Harper, isn't talking with Canadians and is changing the country through large omnibus bills that don't get enough debate before being passed into law.

"That's a bridge that's starting to be built between First Nations and non-First Nations activism," Sauer said, adding the Canadian Labour Congress has endorsed Idle No More.

"If you look at the changes to the Navigable Waters Act, we have a lot of river systems now, especially in Manitoba, that are no longer protected, that I know a lot of non-First Nations people use, whether it's for transportation or re-

creation."

Wab Kinew, director of indigenous inclusion at the University of Winnipeg, wrote an article for the Huffington Post on the Idle No More movement when it started gathering steam in December.

"When aboriginal people do well, all of Canada does well," Kinew said, adding he hopes Idle No More also becomes an awakening for young people of all backgrounds and political stripes to get educated on and engaged with "the policies and the programs that are going to determine their futures."

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# App to help track tsunami debris

**Coastbuster.** Research group wants users to take photos of possible wreckage from Japan and send it to them

With more than a million tonnes of debris from the Japanese tsunami floating toward North American shores and beaches, a new app is encouraging members of the

public to become "citizen scientists" and help track the wreckage as it arrives.

Some of that debris, washed out to sea in March 2011 after a magnitude-9.0 earthquake triggered a massive tsunami, has already washed up along the West Coast of Canada and the United States, but the bulk of the wreckage is yet to come.

When it does, researchers at the University of Victoria want anyone who comes across a piece of the wreck-

## Cleanup planning

"It allows any managers, whether it's local government, provincial or state government, to actually begin to plan how they're going to clean it up."

Kate Moran, president of research group Ocean Networks Canada

age to pull out their smartphone, snap a photo and record what they see using a new app called Coastbuster. Ocean Networks Canada, a research group based at the university,

developed the free Coastbuster app, which is currently only available on Android phones, though an iPhone version is in the works.

The information goes into

a database that can be accessed by local governments and the U.S.-based National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The photos are also posted to a special Flickr feed for the app.

Researchers say the information will allow governments to co-ordinate local cleanup efforts, as well as help identify potential invasive species that may have hitched a ride on the debris.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



The Coastbuster app for the Android operating system, pictured, wants the public to help track debris from the Japanese tsunami as it floats toward North American shores.  
COASTBUSTER/THE CANADIAN PRESS



## Stand up and be counted

Keeper Sarah Hall helps count some of the meerkats Wednesday as part of the annual stock take at Bristol Zoo in Bristol, England. The annual animal 'census' is carried out at the start of each year and includes stocktaking of more than 400 species — from tiny insects, fish and birds, to seals, gorillas and monkeys. MATT CARDY/GETTY IMAGES

### Stargazing in Iran

#### Persian Gulf island to be site of dark sky area

Iran aims to set up its first dark-sky area on an island in the Persian Gulf to promote astronomical research and tourism.

The director of Iran Sky Party, Hooman Najafi, was quoted as saying Wednesday the so-called dark-sky park — an area kept free of artificial light pollution to promote astronomy and stargazing — will be established on Qeshm, the biggest Iranian island in the Gulf. The island, near the strait of Hormuz, is known for its ecotourism attractions.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Traffic lights

#### New rule deems yellow the new red in China

Drivers in China are seeing red over a new crackdown on running through intersections when the lights are yellow. While announcing new rules that double the penalty for traffic-light violations, officials said running a yellow light will now be considered equivalent to running a red one.

Irate drivers complained online about the dangers of stopping short in front of other drivers or the inconvenience of always having to slow down at intersections.

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### Elizabeth Kolbert

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Elizabeth Kolbert's three-part series on global warming, "The Climate Of Man," won the 2006 National Magazine Award for Public Interest, the 2005 American Association for the Advancement of Science Journalism Award, and the 2006 National Academies Communication Award. She is the author of two books, including *Field Notes from a Catastrophe* (2006), on global warming.



Photo by Nicholas Whitman

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# Paying down debt remains key priority for Canadians

## Personal finance.

New survey also finds retirement planning is no longer among top three financial goals

Canadians appear less concerned about retirement planning than in years past as they continue to focus on debt reduction as their main financial priority, according to a new study released Wednesday by CIBC.

Overall, the poll done for the bank by Harris-Decima showed 17 per cent of respondents selected debt reduction as their main priority in 2013, unchanged from 2012 and the third year in a row that it has topped the list. Fourteen per cent chose debt reduction in 2011.

Meanwhile, the poll involving more than 2,000 adults 18 years of age and over found retirement planning was no longer among the top three on the list of priorities.

It was selected by only seven per cent of respondents overall,

### By the numbers

## 164.6%

While paying down debt topped the list of priorities last year as well, Statistics Canada says the household debt to income ratio actually rose to a record high 164.6 per cent in 2012.

down from 11 per cent last year and 13 per cent in 2011.

Second on the list — chosen by 10 per cent overall and unchanged from last year — was building savings. Managing day-to-day spending/budgeting came in third, selected by eight per cent of respondents and down from 14 per cent last year.

A key finding of the poll is that age groups where retirement planning was traditionally a top priority have now shifted to a focus on debt reduction," CIBC said.

The Harris-Decima telephone survey, conducted between Oct. 25 and Nov. 4, is considered to have a margin of error of plus or minus 2.2 percentage points 19 times out of 20. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

## Alaska. Grounded oil rig doesn't appear to have leaked, officials say

No leak has been seen from a Shell oil-drilling ship that grounded off an Alaska island during a storm, officials said, as opponents criticized the growing race to explore the Arctic for energy resources.

Federal on-scene response co-ordinator Capt. Paul Mehler said the Royal Dutch Shell rig is carrying about 541,300 litres of diesel and about 45,425 litres of lube oil and hydraulic fluid. He said the rig appeared stable.

"There is no sign of a release of any product," Mehler

told a news conference.

High seas and strong winds prevented crews from boarding the ship to check for any damage after the large vessel went aground off an uninhabited island in the Gulf of Alaska.

A team of company, Coast Guard and local officials said they were mobilizing spill-response equipment and preparing a plan in the event of a spill. The area is home to at least two endangered species, as well as harbour seals, salmon and sea lions.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Read metro work every Monday and Wednesday for tips and trends in education and employment.

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### Real estate

## Demand for office space will increase in latter half of 2013, report says

A new report says continued low interest rates and a slow drop in the value of the Canadian dollar, among other things, will increase demand for office space in the second half of 2013.

Cushman & Wakefield says while demand will be

stable for the first half of this year, positive demand conditions are expected to follow. In its 2013 Office Outlook report, the real estate services firm also cites a stabilized euro zone and the expected U.S. economic recovery as factors behind greater office space demand.

Cushman & Wakefield says tenants have been moving from the suburbs into city centres to "access the downtown talent pool." Calgary, it notes, is the exception to that trend, with



A new report predicts that demand for office space in Canadian cities will stay stable for the first half of 2013, and increase in the second half.

GETTY IMAGES FILE

companies such as Canadian Pacific Railway Ltd. and Imperial Oil Ltd. opting

to move their headquarters outside of downtown.

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# LEAVING HIS SINGLE-DUDE WAYS IN THE DUST



**HE SAYS...**  
John Mazerolle  
metronews.ca/voices/he-says

Year after year I make tough New Year's resolutions in an attempt to mend my bachelor ways, such as resolving to regularly dust the TV with a cloth, rather than running my hand over the screen every six months and exclaiming, "Wow, that's dusty!"

Well, I'm happy to say that in the past year I've finally made some progress. I no longer own a television.

In your face, dust. Cough, cough.

And, in the kitchen, a friend of mine brought me 12 basic spices this year. I must say, they really spruce up the windowsill.

Many of my other single-dude problems remain, however. I just don't have the right attitude.

I notice this in news-rooms where different shifts share the same computers. Some of my co-workers start their shifts with spray and cloths and hand sanitizer, as if they'll be using their desks for open-heart surgery. Meanwhile, I consider a keyboard sticky with the previous user's Snickers bar a tasty value-add, similar to a mint on your pillow.

previous user's Snickers bar a tasty value-add, similar to a mint on your pillow.

This failure as a human being is unfortunate from a life perspective but very fortunate from a column perspective because it leads to:

## John's 2013 Bachelorhood Resolutions

- I resolve to clean the four breakfast bowls I have, rather than using increasingly less appropriate stand-ins such as Tupperware, popcorn bowls, flower pots and the mop bucket.

- I will clean these dishes before Corn Flakes have become irremovable fossils that will be of interest to top Corn Flake scientists seven centuries from now.

- I resolve to cook a meal that is not bacon, eggs and toast. (Making bacon and toast, eggs and toast, or bacon and eggs is partial credit only.)

- I resolve to accept that re-soaking the dishes repeatedly will not get them clean, that rotating the pillows only works once, and that not using the coffee machine for a while is not the same as cleaning the coffee machine.

- I resolve to invite people over so that I have to clean, but I'm still not scrubbing behind the toilet unless it's, at minimum, the Queen.

- I resolve to learn how to do things on my own rather than calling my parents with cryptic questions like, "Say there was a grease fire right now, would pouring baking soda on it help? Because I don't have any, hypothetically."

- I resolve to do these things soon enough that they can be considered New Year's resolutions and not some last-ditch bucket list. Because the bucket has corn flakes in it.



Royal resolve: tackling a job even a prince like William can handle.

GETTY IMAGES FILE

# From police box to mail box



ROYAL MAIL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Two worlds collide

### Sci-fi classic gets stamp series

This image, released by Britain's Royal Mail on Wednesday, shows a postage stamp with an image of the present Doctor, Matt Smith. The Doctor — who usually uses a police box for travel — will be zooming through time and space on the edge of letters in 2013.

The stamps honouring the cult British television program will be available starting at the end of March. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

## Doctor Who celebrated

### 50

The Royal Mail is marking the 50th anniversary of the science-fiction show Doctor Who with a series of stamps featuring each of the 11 actors who have played the title role. Those featured include the present doctor, Matt Smith, as well as past Time Lords such as David Tennant and Christopher Eccleston. The stamp featuring the first Doctor, William Hartnett, is shown below.



## Time Lord's friends and foes go postal, too



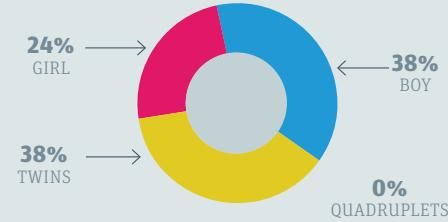
GETTY IMAGES FILE

The series will also include a miniature sheet that brings together Second Class stamps featuring four of the show's iconic creatures — a Dalek (shown above), an Ood, a Weeping Angel and a Cyberman. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Register at [metropolitanpanel.ca](http://metropolitanpanel.ca) and take the quick poll

### What's your royal baby prediction?



### Twitter

#### @NikiReitmayer:

Am I at work right now or is this a bad dream? I'm waiting for Ryan Gosling chasing a zombie to come crashing through my office window #yyyc

#### @WeebDaCat:

4 Advil Migraine and a pot of coffee and I'm good to go! Hello #Chinook! #yyyc

#### @Markomemos:

Want to confuse airport security?

Fly with a metal tin of cookies in your carry-on. #YYC

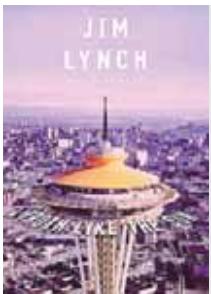
#### @klaas89:

High school girl on the train to her male companion re: Sunnyside: It's like Sesame St on drugs. #yyyc

#### @jpolivchuk:

It is about time #yyyc has a 24 hour coffee place! I needed this during my undergrad! @WavesCoffee\_AB

# Literary applause: Authors pick their favourite books of 2012



Peter Ames Carlin: *Truth Like the Sun* by Jim Lynch

"Set in the Seattles of 1962 and 2001, Lynch's novel tracks his characters through decades of civic idealism, corruption, death and rebirth. His darkly hilarious portrait of modern journalism is alone worth the price of admission."

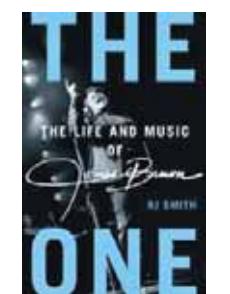
— Peter Ames Carlin is author of the Bruce Springsteen biography, *Bruce*.



John Irving: *Jack Holmes and His Friend* by Edmund White

"What I admire most about *Jack Holmes and His Friend* is the seamlessness of the shifts in point of view and narrative voice. It is a novel about the friendship between a gay man and his straight friend, and it is not only written from each of their points of view, it is written in both the third person and the first person. I find that very hard to do, but Edmund makes it look easy."

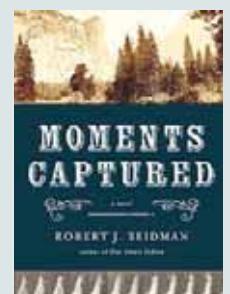
— John Irving is the author of *In One Person*.



Alan Light: *The One: The Life and Music of James Brown* by R.J. Smith

"This was an ambitious, comprehensive, and long-overdue biography of a towering figure in music across the globe."

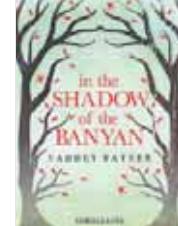
— Alan Light is author of *The Holy or the Broken: Leonard Cohen, Jeff Buckley, and the Unlikely Ascent of Hallelujah*.



Stephen Davis: *Moments Captured* by Robert J. Seidman

"It's a novel about Eadweard Muybridge. This is the guy who invented the moving image. He completely changed the way that humanity sees itself. Edison took it and ran with it, and changed it from something mechanical to something chemical. But this novel is an evocation of a very pivotal time in the history of the moving image, between two-dimensional still image and image that actually moved."

— Stephen Davis is author of *More Room in a Broken Heart: The True Adventures of Carly Simon*.



Chris Cleave: *In the Shadow of the Banyan* by Vaddey Ratner; *The Yellow Birds* by Kevin Powers

"2012 has been a strikingly good year for debut fiction, with almost every month announcing the arrival of a major talent. If I am to single out two novels from this vintage crop, I would choose Vaddey Ratner's sublime *In the Shadow of the Banyan* — a beautiful and heart-rending take on the Cambodian genocide — and Kevin Powers' *The Yellow Birds*, chronicling one soldier's harrowing experience of war in Iraq. Both writers draw deeply on their own experience, bringing a hard-won wisdom to which their literary gift is equal. This is the novel at its best, taking us far beyond the ordinary for a few hours and leaving us spooked and exhilarated."

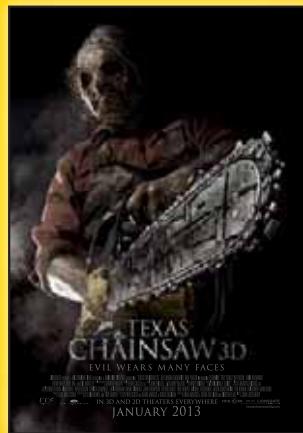
— Chris Cleave is the author of *Gold*. **METRO**

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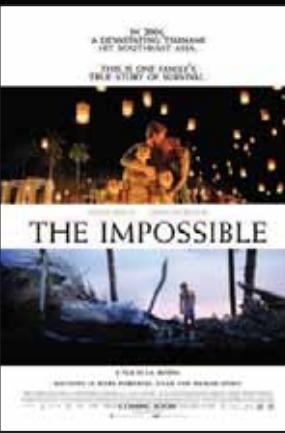


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# Walking the line of super and natural

**Sci-Fi television.** Kris Holden-Ried speaks to Metro about working on Showcase's Lost Girl and the physical challenges it presents as an actor

STEPHEN  
ERAMO  
scene@metronews.ca

Having a "wolf in the fold" is usually considered a bad thing, but if that wolf happens to be Lost Girl's Dyson, then you are in luck. Handsome, intelligent and brimming with animal magnetism — no pun intended — he is a member of the supernatural Fae community and works as a police homicide detective to help keep the peace amongst humans as well as the Fae.

For actor Kris Holden-Ried, who plays Dyson on the popular Showcase TV series, teetering between both worlds is a constant but welcome acting exercise.

"The physical challenges with Dyson are, one, he's a shape-shifter, so he has to have animalism, and two, he's of indiscriminate age, so

## Far from Lost

Lost Girl premieres Jan. 6 on Showcase

- Upcoming. While the actor cannot reveal what awaits Lost Girl fans in the show's upcoming third season, it is obvious just by watching Holden-Ried at work that his enthusiasm for the series and playing Dyson has not waned in the least.

we're playing him as 1,000 or so years old," notes Holden-Ried during a break on Lost Girl's Toronto set. "The trick is to then mix and match that with creating a grounded and believable character."

Dyson's unofficial crime-busting ally (and romantic interest) is Lost Girl's heroine and fellow Fae, Bo (Anna Silk), a beautiful Succubus able to suck the life out of you.

"In season one, Bo and Dyson shared a great deal of passion, but he also knew some of Bo's secrets," says Holden-Ried. "While that put him at an advantage, it also stopped him from fully com-



Kris Holden-Ried stars in Lost Girl on Showcase. HANDOUT

mitting to her. Dyson ultimately fell in love with Bo, but couldn't show it, which was

fun to play.

"At the end of season one, Dyson's love for Bo was

ripped from his soul. That turned into a whole other journey for him in season

two, where the constant emptiness he felt almost drove him crazy."



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# METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

**Music.** From Gangnam Style to Call Me Maybe, Metro looks back at some of the year's biggest hits

## Top 5 albums/singles

- 1** Frank Ocean's Channel Orange
- 2 TIE:** Father John Misty's Fear Fun and PSY's Gangnam Style
- 3** Carly Rae Jepsen's Call Me Maybe
- 4** Gotye's Somebody That I Used to Know
- 5 TIE:** Rihanna's Diamonds and Ke\$ha's Warrior

How did we all leave We Are Young by Fun. off this list? Is it because we're all too old to sing that song out loud? Or is it that the opening of the song is just too schlocky to make it all worth the amazing chorus? Seriously, if that song was the chorus alone, it would be the song of the year. To tell you the truth, it probably still will be anyway. Also, here's where I'm a little bit of a jerk: That Gotye song officially started getting airplay last year. **PAT HEALY**

Somebody That I Used to Know stays on the list because it made me think there was this really great Police song from the '80s recently discovered and newly released. I think I just proved your old fogies theory. **AMBER RAY**

Maybe this supports the argument that I'm already an old fogey, but I had to look up the Rihanna and Ke\$ha songs be-



Father John Misty made 2012's Top 5 with Fear Fun. CONTRIBUTED/MAXIMILLA LUKACS

cause I hadn't heard them before. Ke\$ha has finally been the first to inspire me to call something "devil music" in an unflattering way.

**HEIDI PATALANO**

Another bit of food for thought: Would Gangnam Style make the list if there weren't a video? People probably posed the same question about Duran Duran in 1982, and it's strange how this bit of devil's advocacy is still relevant in 2012. But seriously, in an age where music videos aren't shown on regular TV anymore, it is interesting that a video made such a huge cultural and musical splash.

**PAT HEALY**

I think it would have — hell,

I still haven't even seen the Gangnam Style video, but I somehow know the dance. I personally enjoyed Britney trying her hand (at) it while appearing on Ellen, but why was she dressed like a flight attendant for that episode?

**MEREDITH ENG**

I think a prerequisite for best song of the year means we can sing along with it. Oh man, I'm such a xenophobe.

**DOROTHY ROBINSON**

What about Kanye this year? Did anybody vote for Cruel Summer? **PAT HEALY**

I say this every single year, and I hate change so I'll say it again: I have never heard anything by Kanye West that

I didn't want to turn off immediately. Who's old and grumpy? This girl — this girl right here. **MONICA WEYMOUTH**

Oh man, Monica, give Mercy a chance! There's so much going on in this track. I love how it flawlessly switches between winding dancehall to some gritty southern rap all while maintaining a cool, dark undertone and then suddenly taking a left turn to an electronic dance party. Yup, you have to bring ALL your moves to the floor. Adding to the awesomeness is the all-black ninja-Bedouin looks everyone sports in the stylized video. It's totally one of those fashion moments I can see being referenced years from now. **TINA CHADHA**



Carly Rae Jepsen. GETTY IMAGES

## Editor's picks

### Music editor Pat Healy's Top 5

1. Father John Misty's Fear Fun
2. Michael Kiwanuka's Home Again
3. Big Boi's Vicious Lies and Dangerous Rumors
4. Frank Ocean's Channel Orange
5. TIE: Bruce Springsteen's Wrecking Ball and The Walkmen's Heaven

This was a weird year for music. For the first time, I feel like there was actually too much to listen to. Look at the top lists of any major publication and there are very few similarities.

I, for one, am surprised more outlets aren't praising the stellar songcraft of Father John Misty and Michael Kiwanuka. Neither are reinventing the wheel. In fact, both seem very much rooted in sounds of the '60s and '70s.

But as for my next two

entries, Big Boi and Frank Ocean, I think both are really doing great things to push their genres forward.

Big Boi took a brave tact on this most recent album, which also didn't make many lists (presumably due to its December release date). Instead of just a few indie collaborations here and there, like he has done in the past, almost every track is a collaboration with either Phantogram or Little Dragon. The results are completely original.

Frank Ocean's results are completely original too. It really is like he is on the forefront of bringing a much-needed update to R&B. The new school, which includes Miguel and The Weeknd, never knew a world where hip-hop didn't exist and that has formed their worldview in such a unique way that the old soulsters didn't have.

And in fifth place, maybe it's just loyalty, but two of my favourite acts released albums that weren't my favourites they've ever released, but I still enjoy them.



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STYLE

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# 2012's memorable moments à la mode

## **Beauty and the buzz.**

From a dress double-up to a cropped-coiffe craze, here are some of the most talked-about style stories of 2012

### **Michelle Obama and Ann Romney's matching hues.**

The wives of the presidential candidates turned out to the second debate between Barack Obama and Mitt Romney in practically the same shade of hot pink. But they weren't by the same designer: Romney's was by Oscar de la Renta, and Obama's by Michael Kors. A potential matching prom dress-style embarrassment was chalked up to timing: October's breast cancer awareness month.

### **Marc Jacobs' Louis Vuitton show**

Many of the designer runways seemed more of the same — stark stages, thumping music and audiences distracted by their electronic gadgets — but the Louis Vuitton fall catwalk in Paris commanded attention. Models dressed in their very best travelling clothes stepped off a reconstructed retro steam train. Valets carried the vintage-inspired hat boxes and vanity cases. The trip seemed refreshingly refined and modern.

### **Two-tone Stella McCartney dresses**

McCartney, no stranger to the red carpet, has created a style that celebrities can't get enough of. Her ultra-flattering "silhouette" dress has become almost ubiquitous.



The Olympics saw some of the most famous faces in fashion strutting to a David Bowie soundtrack. GETTY IMAGES

It features one colour on the bodice and back, and a graphic opposite on the sides and sleeves. Kate Winslet has worn several versions, and Brooklyn Decker, Kate Moss, Edie Falco and Liv Tyler have, too. The best turn might have been Jane Fonda at the Cannes Film Festival.

### **Beyoncé's back-from-baby body**

Some new mothers claim they feel sexier than ever. Beyoncé was living proof at the Met Gala, the important industry event co-hosted by Vogue's Anna Wintour. Beyoncé's skin-tight, largely sheer — save the bodice

beading and feathered fish-tail train — gown by Givenchy announced that Ivy Blue Carter's mom wasn't going to hold back. An honourable mention goes to Jessica Simpson, who dieted her way to a Weight Watchers ad, then wound up pregnant again.

### **Supermodel reunion at the London Olympics.**

Gold was the new black at the closing ceremony with a parade of supermodels wearing gilded gowns in a tribute to British fashion. Kate Moss and Naomi Campbell both had on Alexander McQueen, Georgia May Jagger's was

by Victoria Beckham, Karen Elson was in Burberry, and Stella Tennant donned a Christopher Kane Swarovski-crystal catsuit.

### **Miley Cyrus' cropped cut**

When Cyrus cut off the long hair her fans had become used to, she took some heat. She has said (and tweeted) repeatedly, though, that she was pleased with the new punk-pixie look and was sticking with it. Short hair turned out to be a big trend, with Alicia Keys, Rihanna and Anne Hathaway all ending the year with much shorter locks than they started with. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## **Front-page fashion**

### **Moore at the Emmys**



Julianne Moore's neon-yellow Dior Haute Couture outfit (really a sweater and ball skirt) spawned a love-it-or-hate-it debate among armchair style critics. What was largely left out of that conversation, however, was that it was Raf Simons' big celebrity debut for Dior.

### **007's slim suits**



Daniel Craig's wardrobe in Skyfall is impeccably tailored — and quite tight. Unlike the James Bonds that came before him, Craig, whose wardrobe is created mostly by Tom Ford, takes his suits Euro-style with tapered legs and shorter rises.

### **Angelina Jolie at the Oscars**

The leg that peeked out of the high thigh-high slit of her Versace gown was the most exciting appearance on the red carpet. It was Jolie's picture-perfect pose to expose just enough thigh that launched a thousand memes.



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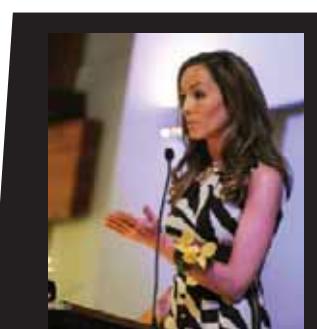
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# Resolutions from a decorator



Every new year the decorating magazines, newspaper columns and home decor television shows ramble off the predicted trends for the upcoming new year.

Although it's good to know what they are, it's also important to consider which ones can — and cannot — be implemented in our lives.

My resolution this year is not to bring a lot of new trends into my life, but to say goodbye to a few that don't hold longevity in my home.

Here are two of last year's trends that I fell prey to in 2011-2012 — ones that have had their way (and their day) with me.



The colour brown has been used to create some pretty spectacular rooms, but it's time to say goodbye this year. SUPPLIED

## The colour brown

We've seen brown tones dominate home decor for the past 10 years, and although it wasn't a new trend last year, it just seemed to linger on much longer than other colour trends from the past.

From espresso wood tones to deep brown leather furnishings, it's a promise to myself to think twice before introducing any more of it to my room's decor scheme. There are certain decor items that will always need to be brown — wood flooring, cabinetry and book cases, but using it in upholstery, paint and wallpaper feels a bit overdone these days.

Replace those dark brown colours with rich, muted shades of grey, purple, teal and cinnamon.

## The deconstructed factory look

Stripped metal furnishings, repurposed wood, worn carpets and industrial factory cart coffee tables have somewhat had their day.

There's always a casual decor scheme on tap and the industrial chic look is now overblown. Was it an attempt to decorate in a more casual manner without going back to country decorating? My new motto about this look: If it looked great in a factory setting, then don't bring it home anymore.

Search for fresher looks in the casual decor schemes — pastel colours, pale wicker, seagrass and off-white paint colours.



Industrial Chic: Used initially for a little shock value, industrial items have now become overblown in the home. SUPPLIED

# New year, new colour: Emerald named Pantone's colour of 2013

## Emerald green.

Keep in style this year when planning your home decor

Emerald is the jewel in Pantone's crown of colours for 2013. The vibrant green hue was announced as its colour of the year.

Emerald is symbolic of growth, renewal and regeneration, said Leatrice Eiseman, executive director of the Pantone Color Institute, the research division of Pantone Inc., which creates colour standards for the fashion, beauty and home industries.

"That is what the stone implies and has ... for many cultures. It celebrates new life, and that, we feel, is a good message because it speaks of optimism for the future," she said in a phone interview from Bainbridge Island, Wash.

"At the same time, because it is closely connected to the gemstone, more people would think of it as a colour that is very sophisticated."

The selection of the rich green hue — which Eiseman describes as a "well-balanced colour" — is a striking departure from Tangerine Tango, the reddish-orange shade that took Pantone's top colour honour for 2012.

Pantone's annual colour forecast of the hottest hue for the year ahead factors in a number of different influences, from graphic design and fashion to film and TV.

Eiseman said they also look at the consumer zeitgeist from an international perspective, and start to seek out a colour symbolic of what people feel they need.

They are also on the lookout for a "building up of references" in the years leading up to the hue in question being named the top colour, she added.

With that checklist in tow, emerald — and its seemingly universal appeal among style arbiters and consumers — appears to fit the bill.

"We had to look for a specific green that was not one that we were seeing as much of, but as I said, was

on the ascendancy," said Eiseman.

Indeed, the vibrant shade has been a fashionable favourite for some time, from the sleeved, sequined Versace number worn by Angelina Jolie at the 2011 Golden Globes to the sleek, silk Mulberry dress donned recently by the Duchess of Cambridge.

But Eiseman noted that emerald greens are surfacing in cosmetics as well, notably in the proliferation of colours emerging in nail polishes.

Eiseman said emerald is already being seen colouring kitchen appliances, and consumers can expect to see bedding and dishware among the array of items steeped in the shade in the months to come.

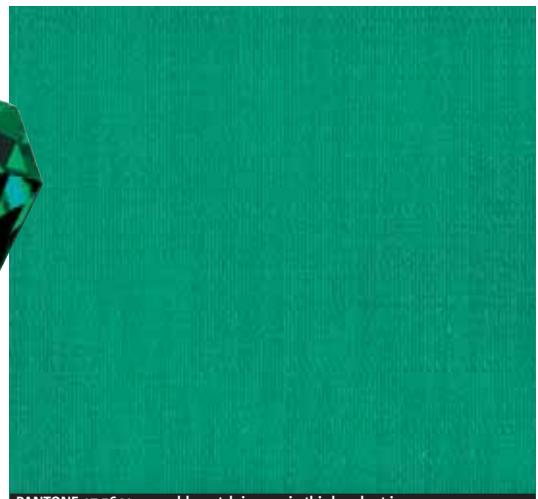
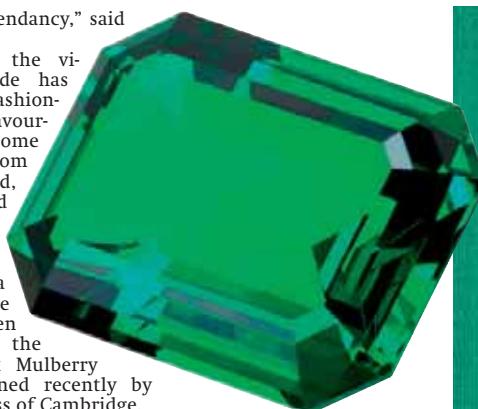
"Certainly in domestics and linens, table tops, glassware, ceramics (is) where emerald really shines," she

said. "If you do emerald in glassware, it is just spectacular. It also takes on such beautiful colourations."

"These are the ways you're going to be seeing it, and in a lot of high-tech kind of applications as well going forward," she added.

"The more time and effort that is put into technology and what creates some of these finishes, like in cars, you are definitely going to be seeing (this colour) coming up."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



PANTONE 17-5641 emerald swatch is seen in this handout image.  
THE CANADIAN PRESS/HANDOUT/PANTONE

## Colour me emerald

"If you look into emerald ... from a very traditional, historical perspective — and this is something that's shared by many cultures — it comes from the most abundant colour family in nature. There are more greens than there are any other colours."

Leatrice Eiseman, executive director of the Pantone Color Institute

# Green beans and black beans and chickpeas – oh my!



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This salad has nutrition galore and makes a great side salad or buffet dish. Often I'll add some

grilled chicken or fish and make it a main meal. Cut the avocado just before serving, or add some lemon juice to it to prevent discolouration.

1. Steam the green beans just until bright green and still crisp, about 3 minutes. Place

immediately under cold water and rinse until the beans are no longer warm. Place in a serving bowl.

2. Spray small non-stick skillet with cooking oil and place over medium heat. Sauté corn, stirring frequently, until browned,

approximately 8 minutes. Add to the serving bowl, along with the black beans, chickpeas, bell pepper, onion and avocado.

3. Whisk the zest, juice, oil, garlic, ginger, jalapeño, salt and pepper together in a small

## 3-Bean Avocado and Charred Corn Salad with Lime Dressing



**This recipe serves six.** LORELLA ZANETTI, ROSE REISMAN'S COMPLETE LIGHT KITCHEN (WHITECAP BOOKS)

### Ingredients

- 8 oz green beans
- 1 cup drained canned corn kernels
- 1 cup canned black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 cup canned chickpeas, drained and rinsed
- 3/4 cup diced red bell pepper
- 1/2 cup diced red onion
- 1/2 cup diced ripe avocado
- Dressing
- 1 1/2 tsp lime or lemon zest
- 3 tbsp freshly squeezed lime or lemon juice
- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tsp minced fresh garlic
- 1 tsp minced fresh ginger
- 1 tsp minced jalapeño
- Pinch salt and black pepper
- 1/3 cup chopped fresh cilantro, basil or parsley

bowl.

and toss to mix. Garnish with cilantro. ROSE REISMAN'S COMPLETE LIGHT KITCHEN (WHITECAP BOOKS)

## Vitamin Cfix. Grilled Beef with Grapefruit Slaw



1. Cut skin off grapefruit, cut into segments, place in a bowl. Squeeze grapefruit membrane juices into a bowl. Stir in parsley, garlic, ginger, cumin and black pepper. Divide mixture in half.

2. Trim fat from steak. Add the steak to one half of the grapefruit juice mixture. Coat, cover and refrigerate for 30 minutes to 4 hours.

3. Place steak in greased grill pan over medium high heat and grill turning once, for about 5 minutes or until desired doneness.

4. Stir brown sugar into reserved marinade. Return pan to medium high heat. Add coleslaw and marinade mixtures.

### Ingredients

- 2 Florida grapefruits
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) finely chopped fresh Italian parsley
- 1 clove garlic, grated
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) grated ginger
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) ground cumin
- Pinch freshly ground black pepper
- 1 grilling strip loin beef steak
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) packed brown sugar
- 750 ml (3 cups) coleslaw salad mix

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MLB

Rays, Price come to 1-year agreement

The Tampa Bay Rays and American League Cy Young Award winner David Price have agreed to a one-year deal for just over \$10 million US and avoided arbitration.

Price, who earned \$4.35 million in 2012, agreed to the \$10.11-million deal Tuesday. The Rays announced it on Wednesday.

He became the franchise's first 20-game winner in 2012, going 20-5 with an AL-best 2.56 ERA and 205 strikeouts in 211 innings. Price narrowly beat out Detroit's Justin Verlander for the honour that annually goes to the league's top pitcher.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



David Price GETTY IMAGES FILE

NBA

Clippers owner's son found dead in Malibu

The son of Los Angeles Clippers owner Donald Sterling was found dead of an apparent drug overdose at his Malibu, Calif., home, authorities said Wednesday.

The body of Scott Ashley Sterling, 32, was found shortly after 11:30 p.m. Tuesday, Los Angeles County coroner's Lt. Larry Dietz said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# 'The Nuge' dispensing nuggets of NHL wisdom

## World juniors.

Nugent-Hopkins a source of insight for Team Canada teammates with big-league aspirations

Regardless of what happens the rest of the way for Team Canada at the world junior hockey championship, most of the players on the team hope — one day — to make the NHL.

"It's in the back of your mind all the time," said forward Boone Jenner, a draft pick of the Columbus Blue Jackets. "It's the main goal. Since you're a little kid you want to play in the NHL. Every day you try to think about that and wonder how you're going to get better each day and keep going. It's the ultimate goal."

"And hopefully some day I'll be able to set foot on the ice for a game."

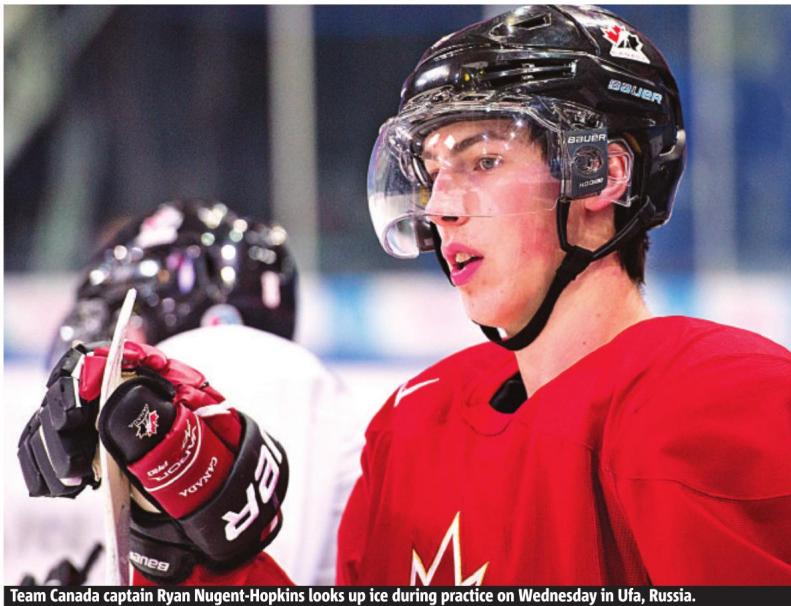
While his teammates can only dream of life in the NHL, captain Ryan Nugent-Hopkins has already lived it. He was a point-per-game player with the Edmonton Oilers last year, and a rising star in the league.

As such, Nugent-Hopkins has become a wonderful resource for his teammates to learn about life in the bigs.

"They definitely have a lot of questions," said Nugent-Hopkins. "Some guys have experienced a few games. Some guys will be there in a few seasons. There definitely are some questions and I try to shed light on it."

What does he tell them?

"It's definitely the best of everything," said Nugent-Hopkins. "The checking is so much better, the speed of the game is just amazing. The first thing I noticed was the atmosphere in the buildings.



Team Canada captain Ryan Nugent-Hopkins looks up ice during practice on Wednesday in Ufa, Russia.

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Quarter-final clashes

John Gaudreau had a hat trick, Riley Barber scored twice and the United States beat the Czech Republic 7-0 to set up a rematch with Canada in Thursday's semifinal. Canada topped

the U.S. 2-1 in the preliminary round.

- Defending champion Sweden will face Russia in the other semifinal.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

tournament if the lockout ends.

They'll have pulled off a rare double: Getting to play in the world juniors, then getting an immediate shot at the NHL.

"It's definitely pretty exciting to think about it that way," said Kitchener Rangers defenceman Ryan Murphy, a lock to go to the Carolina Hurricanes camp. "I never really thought about it, but that could have been my last game in Kitchener I played before the break."

"It would be nice to play another game in Kitchener, but it would be pretty cool to play in the NHL. Whatever happens, I'll be happy with it."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Harrington — drafted by the Pittsburgh Penguins — pays rapt attention when Nugent-Hopkins talks.

"He's been great for us," said Harrington. "He brings so much experience and leadership. He told us what it's like. It sounds awesome. It's motivation for the rest of us to get to where he is."

In all, 20 of Team Canada's 23 players are already drafted by NHL clubs. As many as 10 could get the call to come to camp immediately after the

Go to metronews.ca for coverage of Thursday's Canada-U.S. semifinal in Ufa, Russia.



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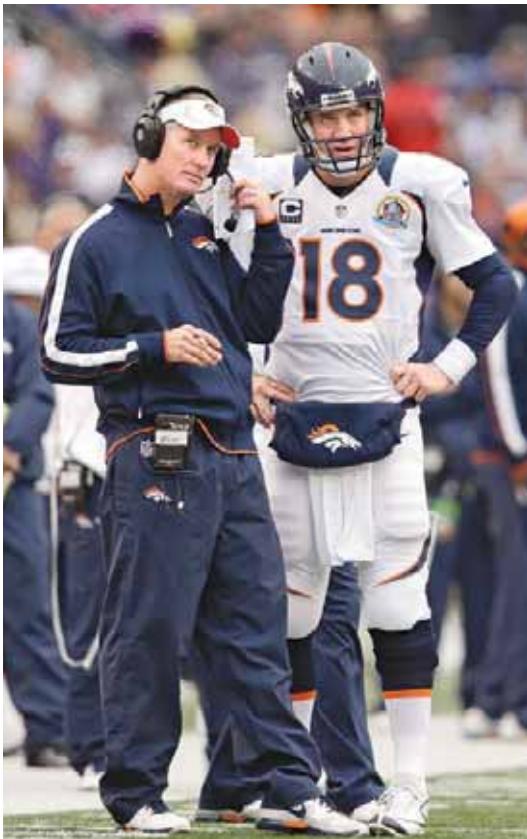
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SPORTS



Denver Broncos offensive co-ordinator Mike McCoy, left, talks with quarterback Peyton Manning during a game on Dec. 16. Wally Buono knew 13 years ago that McCoy had the qualities to be a good football coach. ROB CARR/GETTY IMAGES

#### Premier League

#### Last-place QPR stuns Chelsea

Chelsea's recovery under Rafa Benitez was brought to a shuddering halt by the Queens Park Rangers on Wednesday as the Premier League's bottom team won 1-0 in the west London derby.

QPR's first win in the topflight at Stamford Bridge since March 1979 was secured by Shaun Wright-Phillips scoring against his former club.

The end of Chelsea's four-game win streak in one of the biggest shocks so far this season left Benitez's side fourth in the standings.

Everton is only two points behind after beating Newcastle 2-1, but has played a game more than both Chelsea and sixth-place Arsenal.

Liverpool still has its sights on the top four, beating Sunderland 3-0 to move seven points behind Chelsea but having played one more match.

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Shaun Wright-Phillips scores the winner Wednesday. GETTY IMAGES

#### Lockout. NHLers temper excitement

The talks have heated up and a deal could soon be at hand, but NHL players are trying not to let their hopes get too high that a collective-bargaining agreement will get signed and a partial season will be saved.

A group of eight NHL players skating in Candiac, Que., a suburb of Montreal, Wednesday were glad that their players' union and the league have been talking over the last few days in New York. But they caution that the NHLPA thought a deal was close only a month ago, only to see commissioner Gary Bettman withdraw his offer.

"Yes, we're excited, but I hope it's not like last time when we were all excited and then the next thing you know, it's off the table," said forward Steve Begin. "But you have to stay positive."

Begin does not have a contract, but is awaiting a chance to crack the Calgary Flames roster during what may be a short training

camp.

The league wants a deal done by Jan. 11, so a 48-game schedule can start on Jan. 19. The threat of losing an entire season, as happened in 2004-05, looks to have lit a fire under the negotiations.

"I've got excited before and I'm not going to get excited until a deal is signed," cautioned Montreal Canadiens captain Brian Gionta.

"We're looking forward because it's getting late," said Canucks forward Alex Burrows. "We're in the new year now, so we have to make sure they keep talking and find a way to grind it out and agree on a few things." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

**Quoted**

**"Now I think it's time.... I think they'll get something done."**

Defenceman Steve Begin



Former Canadiens player Steve Begin THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

#### Wednesday's results

**TORONTO 102 Portland 79**  
Sacramento 97 Cleveland 94  
Indiana 89 Washington 81  
Chicago 96 Orlando 94  
Memphis 93 Boston 83  
Miami 119 Dallas 109 OT  
San Antonio 117 Milwaukee 110  
Brooklyn 110 Oklahoma City 93  
Houston 104 New Orleans 92  
Phoenix 95 Philadelphia 89  
Utah 106 Minnesota 84  
L.A. Clippers at Golden State

**Thursday's games — All Times Eastern**  
San Antonio at New York, 7:30 p.m.  
Minnesota at Denver, 9 p.m.  
**Friday's games**  
Sacramento at **Toronto**, 7 p.m.  
Brooklyn at Washington, 7 p.m.  
Cleveland at Charlotte, 7 p.m.  
Atlanta at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.  
Philadelphia at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.  
Indiana at Boston, 8 p.m.  
Chicago at Miami, 8 p.m.  
Portland at Memphis, 8 p.m.  
Houston at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.  
Utah at Phoenix, 9 p.m.  
L.A. Lakers at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

**THE CANADIAN PRESS**

**Job interviews.** Mike McCoy, former CFL pivot, is meeting Buffalo, Chicago, Arizona and Philadelphia about head coaching positions

Mike McCoy's one of the NFL's hottest head-coaching prospects, but Wally Buono knew 13 years ago while with the Calgary Stampeders that the Broncos' offensive co-ordinator had the qualities to be a good football coach.

"Oh yeah and here's why," the B.C. Lions vice-president of football operations and GM said Wednesday. "We had Mike for something like four days and then he started for

#### Quoted

**"Mike, at the time, could have been our starting quarterback, but went to Carolina almost as a graduate assistant because he felt the vision for his life was to be a coach."** Wally Buono on Denver Broncos offensive co-ordinator and head-coaching prospect Mike McCoy

</

**Horoscopes**

**Aries**

**March 21 - April 20**

Today's Mercury-Uranus link warns that what you desire the most is unlikely to be good for you, so maybe you need to think about it again. Try to think through what the consequences might be — it could save you a lot of bother later on.

**Taurus**

**April 21 - May 21**

Focus on the big issues today. Don't let little everyday things distract you. Most people seem to enjoy getting caught up in trivial details. But you're not most people; you're a Taurus. Be different.

**Gemini**

**May 22 - June 21**

Whatever else you do over the next 24 hours, you must stay in control of your emotions. If you allow them to get out of hand, you could end up in a place you really don't want to be. Stay calm.

**Cancer**

**June 22 - July 21**

You won't be able to hide your thoughts and feelings today. Your face will betray you even when you think you are lying convincingly. You might as well open up and let the world know what's in your heart.

**Leo**

**July 24 - Aug. 23**

You may be inclined to work harder than ever but that really isn't necessary. Ask yourself, honestly, if there is anything that must be done immediately. Chances are most things can wait a few days.

**Virgo**

**Aug. 24 - Sept. 23**

Although you are feeling pretty dynamic at the moment, you may find it hard to get moving today. Don't let it worry you if nothing much gets done because you will more than make up for it later on.

**Libra**

**Sept. 24 - Oct. 23**

Stop wasting time and energy thinking about what might have been and start thinking about what still could be if you get your act together right now. The past is over and done with, so focus on the future.

**Scorpio**

**Oct. 24 - Nov. 22**

If you don't follow the rules today, you could find yourself in a lot of trouble. Be wary of people who try to encourage you to take the kind of risks that even you tend to avoid. They'll lead you astray.

**Sagittarius**

**Nov. 23 - Dec. 21**

You may be a nice guy by nature but you will fight for what you believe and you are certainly no pushover. Who was it who said, "Speak softly and carry a big stick"? That's the kind of outlook you need.

**Capricorn**

**Dec. 22 - Jan. 20**

You may be inclined to throw yourself at each and every challenge that comes your way but that's just a waste of time and energy. Choose your battles carefully and aim to win them one at a time.

**Aquarius**

**Jan. 21 - Feb. 19**

Rivals and competitors seem determined to give you a hard time but that's OK. You are at your best when it seems as if the world is against you. It's not true, of course, but it does tend to motivate you.

**Pisces**

**Feb. 20 - March 20**

It may seem as if your life is heading down a predestined course but that isn't strictly true. You can change your destiny any time you choose, but first you need to believe that it's possible. Start believing today. **SALLY BROMPTON**

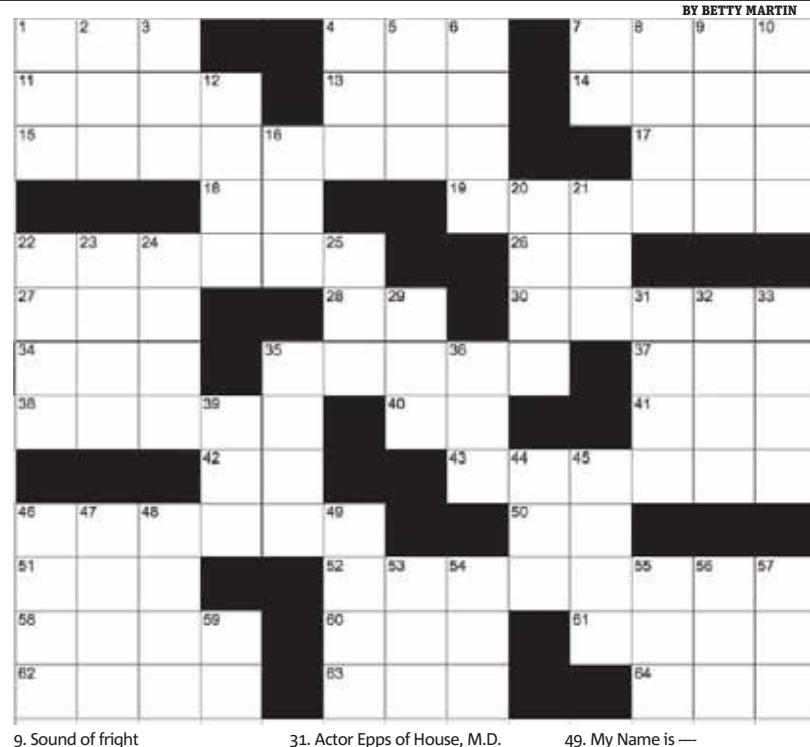
**Crossword**

**Across**

1. Coffee holder
4. Beer holder
7. Intense anger
11. Minerals
13. Opening (anat.)
14. I smell -- (2 words)
15. Window shopping
17. Patience -- virtue (2 words)
18. First two vowels in a sequence
19. Handbag handles
22. Pancake mixture
26. Battery sz.
27. Spanish cheer
28. Blood type (abbr.)
30. Fencing weapon
34. Actress Maris of Nurses
35. Show gratitude to
37. Ruin
38. Florida city
40. Negative
41. -- loss for words (2 words)
42. Chemical suffix
43. Confidential
46. Newcomer
50. Unser of racing
51. Lab eggs
52. Refrains from
58. Yesteryear
60. "The Crying Game" actor
61. Kind of point
62. Monthly exp.
63. Directed
64. Atlas abbr.

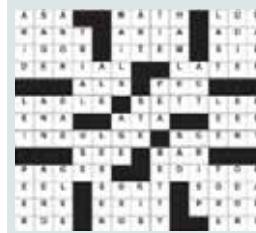
**Down**

1. Corn throwaway
2. YYZ posting
3. Prefix meaning recent
4. Japanese carp
5. Shore bird
6. Jokes
7. Egyptian Sun God
8. Diva's solo
9. Sound of fright
10. Greek letters
12. Smack
16. Lay eyes on
18. Chore
21. Not yet cooked
22. Gravy holder
23. Burghoff's co-star
24. Plow puller
25. School cheer
29. Exclude



31. Actor Epps of House, M.D.
32. Hotel posting
33. Mild oath
35. Powder
36. Numerals (abbr.)
39. Luau fare
44. Consume
45. Chowder ingredient
46. Slangy refusal
47. Football shape
48. Bud holder
49. My Name is —
53. Opie's aunt
54. Melancholy
55. Comparative suffix
56. Word with 'waste' and 'want'
57. Fr. holy woman
58. Roger E. Mosley on Magnum, P.I.

**Yesterday's Crossword**



**What's online**

See today's answers  
[metronews.ca/answers](http://metronews.ca/answers)



**Sudoku**

**How to play**  
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

**Yesterday's Sudoku**

4	2	8	3	5	9	1	7	6
5	9	3	7	6	1	2	4	8
7	6	1	8	4	2	9	3	5
8	3	7	1	2	5	6	9	4
6	5	2	9	3	4	7	8	1
1	4	8	6	7	3	5	2	9
2	7	4	5	1	3	8	6	9
8	1	6	4	7	8	5	2	3
3	8	5	2	9	6	4	1	7

2	8	7	1	
7	5		9	4
1				2
6	7	1	8	2
4	6	9	3	8
5				7
8	9		3	6
6	4	5	8	

**Weather**

**TODAY**



MAX: 4°  
MIN: -2°

**FRIDAY**



MAX: 5°  
MIN: -4°

**SATURDAY**



MAX: 3°  
MIN: -4°



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(Psalm 91:9-10)

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